

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Infor- mation of Our Readers.

The carrier delivery system for mail will be started in Bend on April 1.

Major James Bruce, Indian war veteran and pioneer of Oregon, is dead at McMinnville, at the age of 92 years.

Christmas business in Eugene this season exceeded that of last year by 100 per cent.

A fuel famine has been averted in Hood River and wood and coal are fairly plentiful at the present time.

For the improvement of the coast guard service at Siuslaw, a 35-foot motor boat has been shipped to that point.

The annual winter meeting of the Oregon Jersey Cattle club was held at Oregon Agricultural college, December 31.

Oregon has an approximate total of 968,759 acres in irrigated lands, according to Percy A. Cupper, state engineer.

Albany voters, 98 to 50, have approved an increased levy for school purposes on the 1919 tax roll of Lin county.

Charles Holstrom, for more than 20 years night watchman at the state capitol, died after an illness of about nine months.

The Hood River county court has adopted a budget that will raise a tax of \$181,851.31, nearly \$30,000 more than last year.

Crews will begin work on the Hood River-Mosier stretch of the Columbia river highway as soon as the snow clears away.

Robert N. Stanfield and Whitney Boise, both of Portland, were reappointed members of the Oregon land settlement commission.

Engineer B. R. Jones has completed his survey for the proposed Monmouth gravity water system, which it is estimated will cost \$56,000.

Over \$50,000 for produce and labor was paid out by the Cottage Grove cannery during the 1919 season. The total pack was 289 tons.

Salem automobile dealers have organized and plans are being made for a show to be given by the organization on February 19, 20 and 21.

Eugene will hold a special election for the purpose of voting \$75,000 bonds to furnish funds for an aviation field and additional fire apparatus.

The Cottage Grove grange has joined the Commercial club in going on record as opposed to the proposed issue of \$2,000,000 in county road bonds.

K. G. Warner of Pendleton was appointed by Governor Olcott as a member of the state livestock sanitary board to succeed the late J. N. Burgess.

There was one fatality due to accident in Oregon during the week ending December 26. The victim was Swan N. Swanson, construction worker of Buxton.

Thirty Filipinos, representing the Filipino student body in Salem, Philomath and Corvallis, assembled at Salem December 30 to celebrate their national holiday.

S. T. Kesterson, fireman on the California, Oregon & Eastern railway, was severely injured at Klamath Falls when he fell from his engine and was dragged 30 feet.

Tony Lettis, recently discharged from the penitentiary after serving 20 months for alleged alien activities during the war, is again under arrest, believed to be insane.

Johnson S. Smith, deputy collector of internal revenue at Portland, was appointed federal prohibition director for Oregon, according to announcement from Washington, D. C.

G. G. Brown, clerk of the state land board, has recommended to the board that \$200,000 of the state school fund be invested in school district bonds bearing at least 5 per cent interest.

A bill to hold the attorney general responsible for the operation of all legislation enacted in Oregon will be submitted for the consideration of the state legislature at its special session in January.

The city of Scio has filed application with the state engineer for the appropriation of 40 second-feet of water from Thomas creek for the development of 226 horsepower for municipal purposes.

The Phez company, with processing plants and head offices in Salem, has received from a New York buyer an order for 85 carloads of apple cider to be delivered at the eastern city as soon as the product can be made.

R. N. Stanfield, well known sheepman of eastern Oregon, has closed a lease with the Warm Springs irrigation district whereby he secures for 99 years the shore line of the district's large reservoir at a reported consideration of \$50,000. The reservoir or lake will cover thousands of acres and in midsummer and early fall the water will recede and expose several hundred acres, which will afford excellent grazing and give access to plenty of water in the dry season.

Approximately 165 bridges and culverts, representing a cost estimated at \$1,696,777, were under contract or advertised for construction during the year 1919, according to the annual report of C. B. McCullough, engineer for the state highway department.

Because of the dissatisfaction expressed by consumers with regard to rates charged by the Douglas County Water & Light company a movement is on foot at Roseburg to vote bonds in the sum of approximately \$600,000 with which to install a municipal plant.

The Douglas county jail was depopulated Saturday night about 11 o'clock when the four inmates escaped after sawing their way out of the main cage and then dropping from a second-story window to the ground. All of the escaped prisoners but one were captured during the day.

The confession of Leon Grannan, who surrendered recently to the authorities at Douglas, Ariz., admitting that he robbed the Shasta Limited at Yoncalla on the night of June 16, 1911, has cleared up one of the greatest mysteries in Douglas county crime annals, according to Sheriff Quine.

Harold Howell, who has been held in the county jail at Marshfield for several months and passed through two trials for the alleged murder of Lillian Leuthoid, a 16-year-old girl of Bandon, probably never will be convicted. Judge Coke discharged the jury of the second trial after it was reported that the jury could reach no agreement.

Indications that the state fish and game commission will refuse to accede to Governor Olcott's recommendations that William L. Finley be reinstated as state biologist and that the commission will stand pat on its action of December 11, ousting Finley, are contained in letters received by the governor from Frank M. Warren and L. N. Fleischner of Portland, members of the commission.

In compliance with a resolution adopted at a conference held in Portland, Attorney-General Brown will draft the bill providing for an increase in payments to injured workmen under the compensation act, according to announcement made by members of the state industrial accident commission. The bill will be submitted for the consideration of the legislature at its special session in January.

Reports of excessive damage to the fruit and berry industry of the Willamette valley, due to the recent freezing weather, were emphatically denied at Salem by C. I. Lewis, secretary of the Oregon Growers association, and V. W. Brown, secretary of the Polk County Growers association. Especially does this denial apply to orchards, which the experts state are practically uninjured by the freeze.

Because of the present car shortage which is said to be hampering many Oregon industries and throwing thousands of men out of employment, Fred Buchtel, chairman of the Oregon public service commission sent telegrams to R. H. Ashton, regional director of United States railways at Chicago, and L. C. Gilman of Seattle, district director of the federal railroad administration, urging that they aid in relieving the situation.

W. P. Andrews, forest valuation engineer of the northwest district, bureau of internal revenue, who has been in Portland since last September 5 in connection with questionnaires by timber owners, has completed his work and will return to Washington, D. C. The questionnaires are now being sent to Washington and the valuations placed on timber lands and timber products will be made the basis of income and excess profits taxes.

During the period between February 26 and November 30, 1919, enough gasoline was sold in Oregon to operate each motor vehicle now licensed in the state for a distance of approximately 5400 miles, based on an average of 15 miles to each gallon of gasoline consumed, according to a statement issued by Sam A. Koser, assistant secretary of state. Nearly 20,000,000 gallons of gasoline was sold to Oregon motor vehicle owners during the period covered in Mr. Koser's statement.

Professor C. I. Lewis, one of the staff of managers for the Oregon Growers Co-operative association, who has made a deep study into loganberry cul-

ture, advises loganberry growers hereafter to delay placing their vines on the trellis until spring to prevent freezing. Lewis advocated this several years ago. The subject has been brought sharply to the attention of growers by the recent unusually cold weather which froze many acres of vines in the Willamette valley that were on the trellises.

As a phase of the purchase of more than 13,000 acres of potato land between Powell Butte and Prineville by George L. Burt, one of the biggest potato buyers on the coast, and associates in central Oregon and elsewhere, the Deschutes Valley Seed company filed articles of incorporation. Capital stock is listed at \$50,000. The incorporators are Guy E. Dobson, Redmond banker, Mr. Burt and George L. Reid. A wide range of agricultural activities is made possible by the articles, but it is understood that the company's work will be chiefly the production of Netted Gem seed for the California market.

WILSON WARNS OF ECONOMIC PERILS AHEAD

Predicts "National Disaster" If After-War Problems Not Solved Correctly

Washington, D. C.—Persistent industry and steady, conscientious saving must be depended upon to avert the "national disaster" which lurks in the cost of living issue, according to President Wilson. Only increased production and real thrift, he said, can be effective in reducing prices and bringing conditions back to a point where wages and the cost of necessities will be properly balanced. The President, outlining the economic policy upon which the government is basing its fight to reduce prices, made it clear that the principles underlying the campaign for thrift conducted by the Savings Division of the Treasury Department through the sale of War Savings Stamps and Treasury Savings Certificates are the principles which must rescue the nation from conditions more dangerous to the prosperity and life of the people than the war itself.

Increasing wages will not meet the situation, the President said. Wage increase in the great industries of the country under present conditions will only tend to push prices further and further out of reach, and the President asserted that wage readjustments must wait upon the outcome of the government's fight to pull down prices.

"Demands unwisely made and passionately insisted upon at this time menace the peace and prosperity of the country as nothing else could," said the President. "And this contributes to bring about the very results which such demands are intended to remedy."

The President, emphasizing the seriousness of the conditions which confront the country, said:

"We are face to face with a situation which is more likely to effect the happiness and prosperity, and even the life, of our people than the war itself. We have now got to do nothing less than bring our industries and our labor back to a normal basis after the greatest upheaval known to history; and the winter just ahead of us may bring suffering infinitely greater than the war brought upon us if we blunder or fail in the process. An admirable spirit of self-sacrifice, of patriotic devotion, and of community action guided and inspired us while the fighting was on. We shall need all these now, and need them in a heightened degree if we are to accomplish the first tasks of peace. They are more difficult than the tasks of war—more complex, less easily understood and require more intelligence, patience and sobriety. We mobilized our man power for the fighting; let us now mobilize our brain power and our consciences for the reconstruction. If we fail it will mean national disaster. The primary first step is to increase production and facilitate transportation, so as to make up for the destruction wrought by the war, the terrible scarcities it created, and so as soon as possible relieve our people of the cruel burden of high prices."

Pointing out the thrift remedy for the situation now before the people, the President said:

"Only by keeping the cost of production on its present level, by increasing production and by rigid economy and saving on the part of the people can we hope for large decreases in the burdensome cost of living which now weighs us down."
Ray W. S. S.

The Government will continue Thrift and War Savings Stamp sales through 1920. The 1920 securities are in the hands of the engraver.

1920 *Greetings* 1920

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